

Curriculum

To be reviewed by Feb. 2026	Activity number 7	Strategic Planning Process of civilian CSDP Missions	ECTS 3
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
Civilian Training: Area n. 22: Planning (strategic and operational planning situational awareness)	N/A

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Target audience</u></p> <p>Participants should be senior civilian, police and military personnel engaged in planning at strategic level in relevant authorities of the Member States or likely to be deployed to a relevant EU crisis management structure or to a senior post in a CSDP mission or operation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Aim</u></p> <p>The overall aim of the course is to provide participants with knowledge and skills of strategic planning for civilian CSDP missions with a focus on the EU capabilities as part of the Integrated approach. The course focuses on knowledge, tools and skills for strategic planning at EU level and primarily in the frame of civilian CSDP.</p>
<p><u>Open to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EU Member States/Institutions 	

Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge	<p>LO1: Identify EU and CSDP structures, actors, decision-making and planning processes within the CFSP, in particular and EU Crisis Management procedures, planning terminology and methodology as part of the EU integrated approach (PFCA, CMC, civilian and military strategic options, CONOPS, OPLAN.); explain the linkage of CSDP lessons learned and current conceptual frame of civilian CSDP to support planning processes for missions and operations.</p> <p>LO2: Identify the effective planning of CSDP as part of conflict analysis and prevention, crisis response, stabilisation and peace mediation; explain effective delivery of an integrated EU response in fragile and conflict-affected areas.</p> <p>LO3: Explain integration of Gender, Human Rights, Children in Armed Conflicts, Protection of Civilians in planning process</p> <p>LO4: Identify the specificities of the different sectors of civilian CSDP as Police, Rule of law, Civilian administration, SSR, Monitoring and other recent concepts (e.g. Mini-concepts). and the synergies with military CSDP</p> <p>LO5: Explain the coordination/cooperation within the external-internal nexus (e.g. the field of Justice and Home Affairs (Freedom, Security and Justice)) and security-development nexus (including civil society, communities and NGOs) as well as with the host nation, international organisations (UN, NATO, AU, NGOs) and Third States</p>

Skills	<p>LO6: Collect, manage and assess relevant knowledge and information as in EU conflict analysis and/or wider frame of threat analysis, global, regional or local situation and reporting.</p> <p>LO7: Draft key elements of a strategic planning document (e.g. Crisis Management Concept, CMC) for a civilian CSDP mission</p> <p>LO8: Produce relevant planning for a given context (case study) by using existing generic lists for e.g. civilian capability development for CSDP or other conceptual capacities (in e.g. new security challenges).</p>
Responsibility and Autonomy	<p>LO9: Assess, reason and justify the different needs and steps of the strategic planning process</p> <p>LO10: Compare and demonstrate lessons identified and successes of the Integrated Approach in the field.</p> <p>LO11: Suggest improved planning practices for increased impact and outcomes for the EU, and by CSDP in particular.</p>

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model, particularly level 1 evaluation (based on participants' satisfaction with the course) and level 3 evaluation (assessment of participants' long-term change in behaviour after the end of the course). Evaluation feedback is given in the level 1 evaluation of the residential modules.

In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all the learning objectives, and are evaluated on the basis of their active contribution to the residential modules, including their teamwork sessions and practical activities, and on their completion of the eLearning phases. Course participants must complete the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (mandatory), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated test/quiz. However, no formal verification of the learning outcomes is provided for; the proposed ECTS is based solely on participants' coursework.

The Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering whether to award certificates to participants. Module leaders provide an evaluation report for each residential module. The Course Director is responsible for overall coordination, with the support of the ESDC Secretariat, and drafts the final evaluation report, which is presented to the Executive Academic Board.

Course structure

The course is divided in three parts:

- a) eLearning preparatory phase (26 hours)
- b) Online lectures (9 hours)
- c) residential module (40 hours)

Main Topic	Suggested Working Hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested Contents
1. EU institutions and structures relevant to CSDP	6(3)	1.1 EU Institutions, structures and policy Framework. 1.2 EU Integrated Approach 1.3 Understanding policy and strategy in EU
2. The European Global Strategy, the Strategic the Strategic Compass and the Civilian Compact	6(3)	2.1 Overall framework of the Global Strategy 2.2 The Strategic Compass 2.3 The Civilian Compact
3. Crisis management procedures – from policy to practice.	6(3)	3.1 From policy and strategy to operational and practice in action. 3.2 CSDP mission decision making process 3.3 CSDP mission planning and management documents
4. Conflict analysis and other relevant information.	7(3)	4.1 EU and CSDP Conflict analysis 4.2 Other relevant information tools, as Joint threat analysis, Commission reports, exchange of information, civil society communication

5. European capability development	7(3)	5.1 Civilian and military capabilities development 5.2 Lessons learned and current concepts and mini-concepts for resources and contribution. 5.3. Technology Innovation for Civilian CSDP
6. Civilian and military planning process; case based approach	16(9)	.1 Civilian planning process; and military planning process 6.2 Integration of gender, human rights, children in armed conflicts, protection of civilians in the planning process 6.3 EU integrated response in fragile & conflict-affected area 6.4. Case studies - cases from the field scenarios
7. Financing civilian CSDP Missions	3(1)	7.1 Financial mechanism and procedures for civilian CSDP missions 7.2 Wider EU funds as the MFF 2021-2027, funding external action, development, humanitarian etc.
8. CSDP Missions and Operations	4 (1)	8.1 Current CSDP Missions and Operations. Overview on deployment in the field 8.2 Case studies with varying cooperation partners; scenarios – incl. related to syndicate work.
9. Syndicate assignment	20	9.1 Group work on CSDP Missions and Operations; i.e. draft elements of CMC 9.2 Presentation of the groups, conclusions and closing discussion groups vs. experts.
TOTAL	75(26)	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Methodology</u>
<p>Required: AKU 2 The EU Global Strategy AKU 4 CSDP crisis management structures and chain of command AKU 6 Decision Shaping/Making AKU 11B Gender in Missions and Operations AKU29 Operating in Conflict Affected Areas AKU37 Conflict Analysis AKU 36 Civilian CSDP Compact AKU 55 Strategic Compass AKU 300 Intercultural Competence in Civilian Crisis Management</p> <p>Recommended AKU 1 History and Context of CSDP</p> <p>Supplemental material (selection) Handbook for missions and operations</p>	<p>The course is based on individual self-studies prior to the course, lectures, panels, group work and case studies. The core element in methodology is the syndicate group works and active participation of the individuals to the phased group process and production (of the CMC document and reasoning).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Additional information</u></p> <p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the course, i.e., "participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s) or any other participant(s), should be revealed".</p> <p>Course participants must be available for the whole course, which includes the eLearning phases, the online part and the residential modules, and must be willing to contribute with their specific expertise and experience throughout the course.</p> <p>The nominations of participants are submitted via the ESDC channels by the designated national ENLIST nominators. The Member States will be encouraged to nominate 2-3 candidates from different domains, but only one seat per Member State will be allocated. The ESDC network may also forward proposals from academia and industry to the Secretariat. Based on the applications, the Head of the ESDC will decide on the final list of participants and will forward this list to the co-organisers.</p>

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